



### **OUR MISSION**

1. To promote the development of reining by sponsoring shows which provide the opportunity to show reining horses, and by sponsoring other events which offer training and instruction designed to enhance the skills of horses and riders.
2. To encourage participation in shows and other events by riders of all levels of experience.
3. To promote a spirit of cooperation and collegiality among all of the members of our reining community.

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**WWW.YELLOWSTONEREINING.ORG**

- Established in 1985 -

# YELLOWSTONE REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I. TITLE AND OBJECTIVES

*Section 1. Title.* This organization shall be known as the Yellowstone Reining Horse Association.

*Section 2. Objectives:*

- a.) To promote the development of reining by sponsoring shows which provide the opportunity to show reining horses and by sponsoring other events which offer training and instruction designed to enhance the skills of horses and riders.
- b.) To encourage participation in shows and other events by riders of all levels of experience.
- c.) To promote a spirit of cooperation and collegiality among all of the members of our reining community.

## ARTICLE II. GOVERNANCE

*Section 1.* The governing body of this organization shall be a Board of Directors consisting of the following officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President and six (6) Directors.

*Section 2.* All officers and directors shall be elected for two-year terms with terms of the directors staggered. Six (6) directors [four (4) officers and two (2) directors] shall be elected for terms starting on even numbered years, and five (5) directors shall be elected for terms starting on odd numbered years.

*Section 3.* There shall be no limitation of the number of terms which officers and directors are allowed to serve.

*Section 4.* An Executive Director, a non-voting position, shall be appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors for a two-year term and shall serve at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

*Section 1.* Nominations for officers and directors due for election shall be submitted by a committee appointed by the President from members of the Board of Directors. This Nomination Committee will submit to the President not less than sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting a list of persons able and willing to stand for the positions due for election.

*Section 2.* At the written request of six (6) members, the name of any other candidate may be placed in nomination and notice shall be immediately given to the membership provided said written request is placed in the hands of the Secretary not less than forty-five (45) days before the annual election.

*Section 3.* Each membership in good standing shall be entitled to one (1) vote at the annual meeting or by absentee ballot. No proxy voting will be allowed.

## ARTICLE IV. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

*Section 1.* The **President** shall:

- a.) Preside at all meetings of the Association.
- b.) Appoint all special and standing committee chairpersons and conduct the business of the Association in accordance with the by-laws and rules and regulations.
- c.) Be an *ex officio* member of all committees.
- d.) Serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors and manage the affairs of the Association.

The President may sign, with the Secretary or any other proper officer of the Association there unto authorized by the Board of Directors, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, or other instruments which the Board of Directors has authorized to be executed except in cases where the signing

and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board of Directors or by these by-laws to some other officer or agent of the Association or shall be required by law to be otherwise signed or executed, and in general shall perform all duties incident to the office of President and such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors from time to time.

*Section 2.* The **Vice President** shall perform all of the duties of the President in case of the President's absence or disability.

*Section 3.* The **Secretary** shall:

- a.) Keep the minutes of the proceedings of the members and the Board of Directors in one or more books provided for that purpose.
- b.) See that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these by-laws or as required by law.
- c.) Be custodian of the Association records.
- d.) Keep a register of the post office address of each member, which address shall be furnished to the Secretary by such member.
- e.) Attend to all correspondence and present to the Board of Directors at its meetings all communications received.
- f.) In general, perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors.

*Section 4.* The **Treasurer** shall:

- a.) Have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds and securities of the Association.
- b.) Receive and give receipts of monies due and payable to the Association from any source whatsoever and deposit all such monies in the name of the Association in such banks, trust companies or other depositories that shall be selected in accordance with the provisions of these by-laws.
- c.) Keep accurate books of account of the Association's business and transactions which shall be subject to an annual audit by the audit committee.
- d.) Render a report in a format defined by the Board of Directors of the condition of the finances of the Association at each Board of Directors meeting and at such other times as required and shall make a full financial report to the annual membership meeting.
- e.) In general perform all the duties incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors.

*Section 5. Removal.* Any officer or director may be removed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors whenever in its judgment the best interests of the Association would be served thereby.

*Section 6. Vacancies.* A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or otherwise, may be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term.

## **ARTICLE V. DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Section 1.* The Board of Directors shall have general charge of the affairs, finances and property of the Association to which they shall report at the annual meeting.

*Section 2.* The Board of Directors shall be empowered to fill vacancies occurring in said board. Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors may be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining directors. A director elected to fill a vacancy shall be elected for the unexpired portion of the predecessor's term in office.

*Section 3.* The Board of Directors shall hold regular meetings at such time and place as they shall determine. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of the President. The person or persons authorized to call special meetings of the Board of Directors may fix any place either within or without the state of Montana as the place for holding any special meeting of the Board of Directors called by them. Notice of any special

meeting shall be given at least two (2) days previous thereto by written notice delivered personally or mailed to each director or by e-mail or by telephone conversation. Any director may waive notice of any meeting. The attendance of the director at a meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting except where a director attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened. Neither the business to be transacted at, nor the purpose of any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors need be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting. A quorum of the Board of Directors shall consist of seven (7) members thereof and a majority of such quorum shall decide upon any question that may come before the meeting. Meetings of the board of directors may be conducted in person or by telephone conference call or by other electronic means including online computer meetings. Votes on issues that arise between board meetings may be taken by telephone or by email or other electronic means.

*Section 4.* Initial approval and adoption of by-laws by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the entire Board of Directors.

*Section 5.* Upon dissolution, assets will be distributed to another non-profit organization voted on by the Board of Directors at that time.

#### **ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS OF MEMBERS**

*Section 1.* The annual meeting of the Association shall be at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors. Notice will be given to each member at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

*Section 2.* Special meetings of the members may be called by the Board of Directors to be held at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors. Notice will be given by mail to each member at least ten (10) days prior to such meeting or via email ten (10) days prior to meeting.

*Section 3.* At any meeting of the members held in accordance with the foregoing provisions as to notice, the members attending such meeting shall constitute a quorum.

#### **ARTICLE VII. MEMBERSHIP**

*Section 1.* Any individual interested in reining horses may become a member of the Association.

*Section 2.* Members shall be admitted and retained in accordance with the by-laws and rules and regulations of the Yellowstone Reining Horse Association.

*Section 3.* Each member shall pay annual membership dues set by the Board of Directors. Said dues are payable at the commencement of the Association's fiscal year which runs from January 1 through December 31. Each membership shall be entitled to one (1) vote. The types of membership shall be:

- a.) **Individual** - One (1) person.
- b.) **Family** - Husband, wife and children who are 18 years old or younger as of January 1 of the year in which the membership is purchased.
- c.) **Joint** - For partnership, corporate or other form of joint horse ownership (as listed on registration papers). If any of the persons involved in the joint ownership wishes to compete, each of said persons must have an Individual or Family Membership in addition to the Joint Membership.

*Section 4.* All money paid to the Yellowstone Reining Horse Association shall be U.S. funds.

#### **ARTICLE VIII. FINANCIAL**

*Section 1.* The Association will maintain a reserve fund equal to the average obligation of the annual YRHA show circuit, to be reviewed each year by the Board of Directors.

*Section 2.* The reserve fund and any interest or dividends cannot be drawn upon or dispersed for any purpose other than reinvestment without the consent of two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the entire Board of Directors.

Section 3. Upon dissolution of the Association, the reserve fund and all other assets will be distributed to another non-profit organization voted on by the entire Board of Directors at that time.

#### **ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to the by-laws must be presented to the Secretary at least sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting and written notice of the proposed amendments shall be distributed to the membership by mail at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting. These amendments will be considered and voted on at the annual meeting and must be passed by a majority of the members voting in person.

#### **ARTICLE X. RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Section 1. Rules and Regulations of the Yellowstone Reining Horse Association shall be formulated by the Board of Directors and shall consist of items deemed necessary to the normal conduct of the business of the Association which are not specifically designated in the Association by-laws.

Section 2. Such Rules and Regulations may be adopted or rescinded by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at any meeting held under the conditions enumerated in Article V, Section 3.

### **YELLOWSTONE REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION RULES & REGULATIONS**

#### **1. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Individual	\$35.00
Family	\$40.00
Joint	\$35.00

#### **2. COMMITTEES**

A. The Standing Committees of the Yellowstone Reining Horse Association are: Nominations, Show, Banquet, Audit, By-Laws, Fundraising and Awards.

B. *Ad hoc* committees may be instituted and appointed at the discretion of the President.

C. The Chairperson of each committee shall be appointed by the President. Other members shall be appointed by the committee Chairperson except that the Fundraising Committee shall include at least one representative of the Show Committee and of the Banquet, and the YRHA Secretary.

D. Duties of Committees:

1. **Nominations** - to select and submit to the President a list of persons able and willing to stand for election as officers or directors. Such list is to be submitted not less than sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting.

2. **Show** - to organize and supervise the Yellowstone Slide show(s), jackpot shows, clinics and other instructional events.

3. **Banquet** - to plan and supervise the annual Awards Banquet.

4. **Audit** - to conduct an annual audit of the financial affairs of the YRHA and to submit the findings to the President prior to the annual meeting.

5. **By-Laws** - to submit proposed by-law changes to the Board of Directors not less than sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting.

6. **Fundraising** - to solicit funds and/or merchandise to support the various activities of the YRHA and to coordinate these efforts with the chairpersons of the Show and Banquet Committees.

7. **Awards** - to submit for the approval of the Board of Directors the committee's selection of awards.

8. **Website and Social Media** – to maintain and update YRHA website

and facebook pages with sponsor, show, and other relevant information.

### 3. YEAR-END AWARDS AND SHOW RULES

A. To be eligible for a year-end award, the rider and owner of the horse must be paid up members of the YRHA, and provide a current and complete membership form, prior to the closing of entries of any class in which the horse is entered in order for their results in that class to be counted toward a year-end award. Two-Handed Youth are not required to own the horse they ride in Two-Handed Youth classes; however, to be eligible for a year-end award, the rider and owner of the horse are subject to the eligibility rule stated above.

B. Year-end awards are made based on the results of YRHA approved shows subject to the conditions enumerated in the by-laws and rules and regulations.

C. The following classes shall be offered at the Yellowstone Slide shows and qualify for year-end awards: NRHA Open; NRHA Intermediate Open; NRHA Limited Open; NRHA Novice Horse Open Levels 1 & 2; NRHA Rookie Professional; NRHA Non Pro; NRHA Intermediate Non Pro; NRHA Limited Non Pro; NRHA Prime Time Non Pro; NRHA Masters Non Pro; NRHA Novice Horse Non Pro Levels 1 & 2; NRHA Rookie Levels 1 & 2; NRHA Prime Time Rookie; NRHA Green Reiner Levels 1 & 2; NRHA Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup; NRHA Youth 13 & Under; NRHA Youth 14-18; Club Short Stirrup; Two-Handed Youth 13 & Under; and Two-Handed Youth 14-18.

- In the following classes, the rider may show in any legal bit and may use one or two hands and may switch from one hand to two hands or two hands to one hand: NRHA Freestyle, NRHA Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup, NRHA Green Reiner Level 1 & 2, Club Short Stirrup, Two-handed Youth, Green Horse, and 3-Year Old Open & Non Pro.

D. If any class during the YRHA show season does not have sufficient money available to pay winners the full payment anticipated based on NRHA payout tables after class and trophy fees are taken out, the year-end award standings for that class will be based on a point system for all three shows. Available money left after costs are removed will still be awarded at each show based on NRHA payout tables.

E. Other classes offered, however, not eligible for year-end awards are as follows: Ladies, Gentlemen, Mares, Stallions, Geldings, 3-Year Old Open & Non Pro, Green Horse, Para Reining and Yellow Reiner. Additional classes may be offered at the discretion of the Show Committee. The eligibility of such additional classes for year-end awards will be determined by the Board of Directors annually prior to the first YRHA Slide.

- *Green Horse* eligibility: Open to any horse that has not made more than \$500 in NRHA earnings before January 1 of the current year.
- *Yellow Reiner* eligibility: Open to any rider in first year showing in any reining event.

F. No payback will be awarded for no score or zero scores.

G. No refunds of entry fees, judge fees, or office fees will be made for any horse which is scratched from a particular class after the draw for that class has been completed.

H. In the event that two or more shows are approved by the YRHA in any calendar year, the following additional conditions must be met regarding eligibility for year-end awards:

1. For all Open classes, horse must compete in the same class in at least 50% of YRHA approved shows.
2. For all classes other than Open classes, the same horse and rider combination must compete in the same class in at least 50% of YRHA approved shows.
3. Membership requirements for rider and owner remain as stated in

Section 3A of the YRHA Rules and Regulations and apply to all shows. In the event of a change in ownership of a horse during the course of the YRHA show season, the new owner is subject to the same conditions stated in Section 3A.

4. Year-end awards will be based on the combined earnings of all YRHA approved shows in each class, except Green Reiner and Youth classes which will be based on points.

5. In the event that no otherwise eligible contestant acquires any earnings from all shows in a particular class, the awards for that class will be based on the combined scores of all shows in said class provided that a score greater than zero was acquired in at least one show for said class.

6. Jackpot shows are excluded from all of the provisions enumerated in paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of Section G.

7. A horse which is scratched from a class after the draw is completed will be considered to have participated in that class for that particular show regarding eligibility for year-end awards, provided that the horse and rider are physically present at the show on the day on which the class is offered.

8. SPECIAL AWARDS TO BE GIVEN AT THE ANNUAL YRHA BANQUET  
The Robert V. Broadbent, MD. Perpetual Prime Time Non Pro Reining Champion Trophy was donated in 2001 by Joan Broadbent in memory of her husband, Bob, who began showing in reining in his seventies. She commissioned C. R. Morrison to make it. When an older division of the non pro class was added to the NRHA, she wanted it to go to that class (the Masters). Her wish is that the Broadbent Trophy be given to the winner of the NRHA Non Pro Masters class at the second YRHA show. Rider and horse owner must be YRHA members at the time to be eligible.

The Elise Donohue Memorial Green Reiner I Traveling Trophy is a C.R. Morrison trophy donated by Elise's children after Elise passed away in 2015. Because it meant so much to Elise to have a place to start out in the reining, and because she loved and supported the YRHA, it is to be given to the YRHA Year End winner of the Green Reiner I class. This trophy can only be won one time because theoretically, the winner would be out of Green Reiner I the next year.

I. The first two classes of each day will be drawn by 7 p.m. the night before.

J. Late entries will draw for first or last position in the class on all days of the show.

K. All non-showing horses brought onto the show grounds must have a stall or the haul-in fee must be paid. Non-showing horses may not be ridden in the Show Arena until the conclusion of the show each day. The open Show Arena times (morning, lunch & dinner breaks) are reserved for the showing horses. Non-showing horses may be ridden outdoors at any time during the show. All Anderson Training Stables grounds rules must be followed. No bareback riding, no riding double, no ponying horses. One person in control of one horse at a time.

L. Payment for show expenses (entries, stalls, food, etc.) membership, and banquet items may be made with cash or check. All payments will be in U.S. funds. Checks returned for whatever reason by the bank will be assessed a \$30.00 fine.

M. The show schedule is tentative and subject to change. YRHA reserves the right to make changes, cancellations or substitutions at any time. Show management may change, cancel, alter, or reschedule classes, arenas, or other show particulars.

#### **4. AFFILIATE CIRCUIT QUALIFICATION RULES**

A. All horses, owners and riders are subject to NRHA rules and regulations

regarding affiliate circuit qualifications.

**5. DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES - ABUSE**

A. Abuse or mistreatment of any horse in any manner whatsoever on show grounds will not be tolerated. Abuse is defined as an action, or failure to act, which a reasonably prudent person, informed and experienced in the customs, accepted training techniques and exhibition procedures, would determine to be cruel, abusive, inhumane or detrimental to the horse's health.

B. Individuals will be disciplined if it is determined there was abuse of the horse under any circumstances. Any horse disqualified for reason of abuse will forfeit all monies earned in the particular class.

C. The NRHA Representative and Show Management will deal with instances of reported abuse as called for by the situation.